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# REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME MATTERS ON ITS IN-SESSIONAL MEETING HELD DURING THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL, 16-19 FEBRUARY 1993

Rapporteur: Mr. Thomas STELZER (Austria)

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## I. OPENING OF THE MEETING, ELECTION OF THE RAPPORTEUR, ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

1. The Standing Committee for Programme Matters held an in-sessional meeting during the special session of the Governing Council convened in New York from 16 to 19 February 1993. The Vice-President of the Governing Council, H.E. Dr. Oscar Serrate Cuellar (Bolivia), served as Chairman of the Committee. Mr. Thomas Stelzer (Austria) was elected Rapporteur.

2. At its first meeting on 16 February 1993, the Standing Committee adopted its agenda and tentative schedule of work contained in document DP/1993/L.1. The Standing Committee also agreed to maintain a flexible schedule of work.

## CHAPTER II. FIELD VISITS

3. The report of the UNDP/UNFPA field visit to Bolivia (29 August-5 September 1992) and Paraguay (6-13 September 1992) was presented by the delegate from the United Kingdom. He noted that representatives of four delegations had participated in the visit: Italy, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and Uruguay. In his presentation, the delegate of the United Kingdom drew the attention of delegations to the many detailed conclusions in the report and highlighted the degree of cooperation between UNDP and the Governments of both countries and the notable commitment of both UNDP and other United Nations system staff in the field offices.

4. During the discussion, one delegate commented on the report, drawing attention to the social aspects of development in the transition to a market economy and the use of UNDP resources to support a strategy for this; to the creation of a data bank to support market reforms; and to the need for further analytical work on the introduction of a market economy.

5. The report of the field visit to Syria (31 August-6 September 1992) and Yemen (7-13 September 1992) was presented by the delegate from Ghana, who noted that representatives of eight countries had participated in the visit: Austria, Cuba, Germany, Ghana, Nigeria, Poland, Romania and Saint Lucia. In commenting on the field visit, he thanked the staff of UNDP in both countries for their decisive contribution to the success of the field visit. He drew attention to the conclusions of the detailed report of the field visit. He also drew attention to the introduction of the programme approach in both countries, noting some of the difficulties still existing. With respect to national execution, the Government of Syria had embraced this modality for UNFPA projects, but only a few UNDP activities were nationally executed. In both countries, the neutral and catalytic role of UNDP was recognized. As regards coordination, the existing framework was adequate in Syria, but practical problems existed in Yemen on the sides of both the Government and UNDP. The performance of the Office for Project Services was considered to be mixed in the two countries. The role of UNDP as an important partner in development in both countries was acknowledged.

6. A number of other delegates commented on the report on visits to Syria and Yemen. It was noted that the report on the field visits to these two countries seemed less positive than the observations made on the two Latin American

countries. A comparison was requested between the two regions with regards to the reasons for the different degree of implementation of Governing Council decisions. It was noted that the lack of a national plan would hinder a programme approach, yet many countries lacked such a plan, especially the poorer countries. One delegation noted that the problem of existing differences between official and market exchange rates would have to be taken up with concerned Governments to assure UNDP the most favourable exchange rate. While one delegate questioned whether UNDP had fully implemented relevant General Assembly resolutions at the field level, another pointed out that objective conditions often hindered their implementation in concrete cases. It was proposed that a synthesis be prepared on the field visits held so far.

7. The Assistant Administrator and Director, BPPE, responded to delegations by noting that the countries under discussion represented extremes in application of the programme approach. In one case, there was support at the highest level for the programme approach but in another there was need for an incremental approach to achieve a programme approach. At the fortieth session of the Governing Council, a report would be submitted on decentralization and there would also be an overview report on the programme approach. He also stated that while it was desirable to have a comprehensive national plan for the programme approach, it was also possible to use sectoral plans or investment plans for this purpose.

8. The Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Arab States added that the specific realities in each country needed to be taken into account when judging programme implementation. On exchange rates, he noted that UNDP was following this matter closely.

9. The Chairman of the Committee underlined the value of field visits and the importance of their continuation, but cautioned against making comparisons between countries, given their diversity.

10. The Committee took note of the reports before it and agreed that the Bureau of the Governing Council should discuss modalities for preparing a synthesis of field visits and report back to the Committee.

11. In reporting back to the Committee, the Bureau agreed to undertake a synthesis of the findings and recommendations contained in the reports on field visits that have so far been submitted to the Standing Committee. The synthesis of the reports would be submitted to the Standing Committee at its in-sessional meeting during the fortieth session of the Governing Council.

## III. COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

### A. Africa

#### Ethiopia

12. The Resident Representative presented the fifth country programme for Ethiopia (DP/CP/ETH/5), which had a net indicative planning figure (IPF) of $146.3 million for the period 1993-1997. Support to activities in six areas was proposed: increased food production; food security and nutrition; improvement of the resource-population-sustainability balance; capacity-building in human

resource development in both the public and private sectors; disaster-preparedness, prevention and mitigation; management of economic and technical change in both the public and private sectors; and economic recovery and reconstruction. He emphasized that the new country programme would be reviewed at the beginning of 1994 following national elections and the installation of a new Government.

13. The representative of Ethiopia provided background on political developments and the economic situation in the country, emphasizing the extensive demobilization of soldiers, the transition to a market economy and the progressive laws and reforms introduced. He noted the importance of reviewing the country programme in 1994 after the elections. He indicated that aid coordination was the responsibility of the Government but tnat there was need for more coordination of the United Nations system and within UNDP - in the latter, particularly for addressing transborder issues such as drought.

14. Eight other delegations commented on the country programme. The forthright assessment of the fourth programme was commended. Several delegations observed that the links among the six areas of concentration were not clear nor had environmental issues been addressed sufficiently. One delegation felt that the programme encompassed too many areas of activity. UNDP should concentrate on areas where it had a comparative advantage and experience, particularly in capacity-building, poverty alleviation, and in support of the programme for management of the economy and technical change. One delegation proposed that UNDP should assist in developing cross-sectoral policies and programmes since sectoral activities had received considerable attention. Support by UNDP for elections and for Eritrea were not mentioned in the document and delegates sought further information in that regard. One delegation called for greater prioritization and attention to lessons learned from implementing the previous country programme and called for increased efforts for integrating activities of the United Nations system while another delegation commended the United Nations for its coordination efforts at the field level. The need for finding a balance between relief and longer-term development assistance was stressed and the need to review the programme in early 1994 was underlined. It was noted that more resource mobilization was critical for the success of the programme.

15. In reply to questions, the Assistant Administrator emphasized that considerable attention was being given to improving coordination both in the United Nations system and within UNDP. She noted that $6 million from the IPF for Ethiopia had been earmarked for Eritrea, with the agreement of the Government of Ethiopia, should Eritrea elect for statehood, and that in the meantime UNDP was maintaining its liaison office in Asmara.

16. The Resident Representative replied that efforts would be made to associate other United Nations agencies, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and bilateral donors with the preparation of programme frameworks for the country programme and assured the Committee that links between programmes would be further detailed. The important issues of environment and gender would be incorporated as integral parts of the subprogrammes. UNDP assistance would be given to the electoral process and national execution would be sought, relying on implementing agencies in areas where Government capacity was not well developed.

17. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council approve the fifth country programme for Ethiopia.

## Ghana

18. The fifth country programme for Ghana (DP/CP/GHA/5), with a net IPF for the period 1993-1996 of $46.8 million, was presented by the representative of the Government of Ghana. The country programme focused on three main areas of concentration: capacity-building for development management; support for the private sector and science and technology development and participatory development for poverty alleviation. The representative provided background information on the country's development, in particular its experiences with human development and the social implications of structural adjustment, and noted that the Government supported the national execution modality for the fifth cycle and would establish a framework for national execution of programmes through a national programme management committee.

19. Several delegations commended the country programme, including its three areas of concentration, and its strong regional thrust, while one found the programme too ambitious, given the limited resources. Several delegations also pointed out the need for a concerted centralized effort in Ghana to use aid effectively. Another delegate suggested that a plant-breeding programme should be included under the agricultural programme. The comparative advantage of UNDP with regard to combating AIDS in Ghana was questioned, in view of the large donor commitment in this area. It was suggested that performance indicators should be output-oriented and quantifiable to make it possible to assess achievements. One delegate regretted that UNDP activities in Ghana in the past had not been more focused and expressed his satisfaction at the improved quality of the fifth country programme, especially the emphasis on cooperative efforts with other donors and on private sector development. The utility of national technical cooperation assessment and programmes (NATCAP) exercises in Ghana as an effective aid coordination mechanism was questioned.

20. The Resident Representative responded by noting that monthly meetings with donors were being held; that there was an emphasis on bottom-up planning; that the agricultural programme was designed to be comprehensive; and that UNDP had a key role to play in the fight against AIDS in cooperation with other donors. He undertook to incorporate the suggestions made in the implementation of the programme.

21. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council adopt the fifth country programme for Ghana.

## Mauritania

22. The Assistant Administrator and Director, Regional Bureau for Africa introduced the fourth country programme for Mauritania (DP/CP/MAU/4) for the period 1993-1996. It had a net IPF of $17.2 million and identified two areas of concentration: rural development and human resources and poverty alleviation. It took into account the priorities for technical cooperation outlined in the Government's programme for economic consolidation and growth, which remained valid. In addition to the IPF, the Joint Consultative Group on Policy agencies

would provide $47 million and other UNDP-administered funds were expected to contribute up to $27.1 million.

23. The Representative of Mauritania expressed his Government's appreciation to UNDP and called for approval of the country programme, which was highly relevant for the country's development.

24. One delegation commented that the areas of concentration represented high priorities for the country; another said the objectives were imprecise and did not entirely reflect what had already been accomplished in the country, for example, in the development of the infrastructure. The need for balance between urban and rural development programmes was emphasized along with the need for close collaboration among donors, for which UNDP played an important role.

25. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council approve the fourth country programme for Mauritania.

## Rwanda

26. The fifth country programme for Rwanda (DP/CP/RWA/5), covering the period 1993-1996, with a net IPF of $30.1 million, was presented by the Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa. The previous programme had been extended to cover 1992, in order to allow more time for the preparation of the fifth programme, considering the political changes taking place. Reference was made to the recommendations of the round-table meeting in July 1992 in Geneva and to the Government's efforts in the context of a Structural Adjustment Programme.

27. The country programme concentrated on two main areas: (a) poverty alleviation and social development and (b) strengthening national policy and management capacities. In the context of the first theme, UNDP would provide support for the formulation and implementation of a social development policy for institutions to implement the policy; increase incomes of vulnerable groups in rural areas; improve access to social services; and tackle the socio-economic impact of AIDS. Finally, it would support a global information-education communication programme. Under the second theme, UNDP cooperation would concentrate on programme coordination, including follow-up and evaluation; improvement of policy and management capacities as well as the coordination of aid; public administration reform and decentralization; and private sector development.

28. It was pointed out that the UNDP technical cooperation programme should be seen in the context of, and should be responsive to, changes towards democratization, free and fair elections and the participation of all population groups in the development process. Reintegrating internally displaced persons and returning refugees would represent a particular challenge to the Government and the whole donor community.

29. The representative of Rwanda confirmed his Government's priorities and the relevance of the UNDP country programme. He also referred to the war situation affecting the country, the peace effort being undertaken and the democratization and electoral process under way.

30. Several representatives referred to the events of the past two weeks, which had dramatically increased the flow of people into neighbouring countries as well as the number of internally displaced people. They questioned whether it was opportune to proceed with the approval of the country programme and the long-term commitments proposed. Concern was also expressed about the security situation resulting from the breakdown in the agreed cease-fire. The question was raised whether, under the present circumstances, there was an environment enabling the implementation of the country programme as presented.

31. Some representatives confirmed their agreement with the relevance of the priority areas as set forth in the country programme and the actions proposed to attain them while others found that the country programme did not adequately address the Government's management capacity, and that while the programme was detailed, it seemed to be based on a weak hypothesis.

32. Others observed the need to reduce the turnover of national staff, the importance of adequate and timely response by UNDP headquarters to field requests for consulting services, the increased role of UNDP and donor coordination required to strengthen the role of the national technical cooperation assessment and programmes (NATCAP) exercise, and the need for the Government to implement more actively the planned reforms, including decentralization.

33. Taking into account the views expressed by delegates, the Committee noted that UNDP would organize a round-table meeting on humanitarian assistance by the end of March 1993 and would apply maximum flexibility in the implementation of the programme to ensure that adjustments were made to take into account the specific circumstances of the country. It would carry out close monitoring to ensure that the most critical needs were appropriately addressed.

34. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council approve the fifth country programme for Rwanda, with the provision that the Administrator would present an interim report to the Council at its fortieth session (1993) on the implementation of the country programme as well as on the evolution of the political circumstances in the country and their possible effect on the implementation of the programme.

## Sao Tome and Principe

35. The Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa (RBA), introduced the fourth country programme for Sao Tome and Principe (DP/CP/STP/4), with a net IPF of $39 million. He noted that the third country programme, approved for the period 1988-1991, had been extended for one additional year, through 1992. This had been done to incorporate results of the round-table process in the formulation of the new country programme for the period 1993-1996. The fourth country programme reflected the results of the round-table meeting held in Geneva in July 1992, the follow-up mission on the debt rescheduling held in February 1993 and the ongoing discussions concerning an expanded structural adjustment facility. It also emphasized the important support of the donor community to Sao Tome and Principe and the aid coordination role of UNDP. The country programme focused on two major areas: poverty alleviation through rural development and development management. These programmes would serve as catalyst for attracting and coordinating United

Nations agencies and multi- and bilateral donor assistance. The multi-party democratic system adopted by Sao Tome would facilitate successful implementation of the programme.

36. One delegation strongly supported the approval of the country programme, emphasizing the challenges that the country faced and the appropriateness of the focus given by the programme. Another delegation requested clarification on how UNDP intended to tackle the issue of incentives and motivation for national civil servants and saw this as a possible obstacle to programme implementation.

37. In response, the Assistant Administrator mentioned that the problems of incentives and salary for national civil servants and project counterparts were being addressed globally through the NATCAP exercise and studies such as the recent RBA initiative for capacity-building in Africa. The subject would be specifically addressed in the national context through an inter-agency and multi-donor initiative.

38. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council approve the fourth country programme for Sao Tome and Principe.

## Swaziland

39. The Resident Representative presented the fifth country programme for Swaziland (DP/CP/SWA/5), covering the period 1993 to 1996, with a net IPF of $4.1 million. The overall programme aimed at assisting the Government in developing a medium- and long-term framework for decision-making in resource allocation for development. Such a framework would serve as a catalyst for attracting additional resources for needed technical cooperation. Within this overall framework, the country programme would focus on: (a) human development and employment promotion; (b) small-holder productivity; (c) sustainable environment and water resource management; and (d) public sector management of structural change.

40. Several delegations endorsed the content and strategy of the country programme. The need to avoid spreading the limited resources of the country programme over too many areas was, however, noted.

41. In response, the Resident Representative indicated that UNDP shared the concern about resources being spread too thinly, but stressed that the main thrust of the programme was to assist the Government and other appropriate national institutions develop strategic frameworks for the various areas of intervention, and not to use UNDP resources to make direct interventions in all of these areas.

42. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council approve the fifth country programme for Swaziland.

Zimbabwe

43. The Deputy Resident Representative presented the third country programme for Zimbabwe (DP/CP/ZIM/3) for the period 1993 to 1996, with a net IPF of $18.4 million. The thrust of the new country programme was to support the Government's economic reform programme, concentrating on three key areas: economic management, income generation and environment. He noted that a long-term perspective study was expected to be launched in the early stages of country programme implementation.

44. The representative of the Government of Zimbabwe expressed his gratitude to UNDP for its support to the development of his country since independence. He stated that the third country programme differed both in its focus and implementation modality from the previous country programme and emphasized the Government's commitment to the national execution modality for capacity-building. He was appreciative of the catalytic role of UNDP and made specific mention of a national seminar on environment organized by UNDP. He underlined that the country programme was directly related to the Government's economic reform programme.

45. Nine representatives commented on the country programme. The concentration in three key areas where UNDP had comparative advantages was commended. The effectiveness of the UNDP office in Harare was also commended by several speakers. Clarification of the UNDP role in implementation and monitoring the economic reform programme was sought and it was observed that UNDP assistance should go beyond the study of public enterprises to support for privatization. Two delegations noted with concern that only 4 per cent of the IPF had been proposed as support for work on the environment. Another noted that HIV/AIDS, although a major problem, was not included as an area for assistance. The target from national execution was considered to be highly ambitious and the lack of indicators of programme would make monitoring and assessment difficult. Delegations also noted that UNDP should play a more active role in aid coordination.

46. The representative of the Government of Zimbabwe replied to questions raised, noting the constraints to privatization but emphasizing the wish of the Government to see ownership in the hands of nationals and to achieve full national execution of the country programme. The Deputy Resident Representative pointed out that non-IPF resources were expected to finance activities in the field of environment but would not target tourism, as proposed by one delegation. The World Bank was contributing substantially to the national programme on AIDS. Efforts were under way to improve United Nations coordination. Indicators of progress, while implicit in the document, would be elaborated during the development of subprogrammes and projects to facilitate evaluation.

47. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council approve the third country programme for Zimbabwe.

## B. Arab States

### Algeria

48. The sixth country programme for Algeria (DP/CP/ALG/6), for the period 1993 to 1996, was introduced by the Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for the Arab States. The programme was based on four themes - three addressing socio-economic reforms and one on sustainable development. These were: employment promotion; export promotion and diversification; environmental protection; and support for socio-economic reforms. The fifth cycle net IPF allocation for Algeria totalled $9.5 million and was to be supplemented by estimated cost-sharing of $11.1 million.

49. The representative from Algeria also made a presentation of the country programme, stressing the close relationship between UNDP and the Government, which had resulted in a substantial cost-sharing contribution.

50. Delegations lent their support to the design and objectives of the programme. On the question of coordination, satisfaction was expressed by some while more information was sought on how UNDP intended to avoid duplication with bilateral programmes. The need was expressed for further coordination in the area of environment. Support for the emphasis on macroeconomic reform was given and it was recommended that particular attention be given to priority setting taking into account the main development problems.

51. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council approve the sixth country programme for Algeria.

### Djibouti

52. The third country programme for Djibouti (DP/CP/DJI/3) was introduced by the representative of Djibouti. The $2.7 million net IPF programme for Djibouti for the period 1993-1996 emphasized three areas: (a) management of the economy and promotion of the private sector; (b) development of human resources and the social sectors; (c) environmental protection and community action.

53. Delegations emphasized the importance of the private sector and the need to provide further incentives for private investment. Strong support was expressed for human resource development and water resource management, in particular, groundwater. Questions were raised on how technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) would be implemented and on the results of the 1991 in-depth evaluation of the previous country programme. Questions were also raised on the feasibility of organizing a donor round-table meeting, given the present political upheavals, and on whether the areas of focus in the programme were too ambitious (although well chosen), given the limited IPF.

54. The Chief of Division confirmed that the promotion of the private sector was critical for the economy and that activities were being carried out to review fiscal and administrative regulations with a view to attracting foreign investments. Regarding TCDC, arrangements had been made with the Government of Tunisia to implement through UNDP a programme of cooperation using Tunisian experts in various sectors. On the round-table proposal, UNDP expressed the

view that, given the present situation, the round-table exercise might not be convened in 1993, as originally planned. As regards the limited IPF resources, UNDP indicated that the present country programme would be funded by additional resources made available from other funds such as the United Nations Capital Development Fund, the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office and Special Programme Resources.

55. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council approve the third country programme for Djibouti.

## Egypt

56. The representative of Egypt and the UNDP Resident Representative presented the fifth country programme for Egypt (DP/CP/EGY/5) for 1992 to 1996, which had a net IPF of $44.9 million and was focused on national capacity-building in two areas of concentration: economic and management development and sustainable human development.

57. Nine delegations, in addition to the delegation of Egypt, commented on the country programme, noting, in particular, the focus on national capacity-building and sustainable human development and participatory approaches; the emphasis on management development; the inclusion of support to the Social Fund and the attempt to implement priorities set out by the Governing Council and in General Assembly resolution 44/211. The programme was commended for being well developed and innovative and for attempting to take a strategic approach to the development challenges facing Egypt. While several delegations welcomed the use of the programme approach, there was concern that the organization of the public sector in Egypt might pose difficulties for implementing such an approach. While several delegations considered the programme to be well focused, one said it was too dispersed and concentrated its support on too many institutions. It was suggested that greater attention was needed to transfer and adapt technology for development, and to mobilize more resources, including through cost-sharing. One delegation encouraged the stated interest of UNDP in exploring the transnational economic potential for Egypt.

58. It was proposed that UNDP support to the economic reform programme should not focus on establishing new mechanisms but rather on human and social dimensions. The need for operational units was noted and one representative asked what role UNDP could play in privatization/public enterprise reform in Egypt. It was also felt that priorities should be established for technical cooperation in support of the Social Fund. The Resident Representative, in reply, said that the national programme on which the programme approach of the country programme was centred was the national economic reform and structural adjustment programme and that the issue of sustainability should not be seen only in institutional terms but also in terms of the sustainability of society as a whole.

59. The Committee recommended that the Council approve the fifth country programme for Egypt.

Lebanon

60. The representative of Lebanon and the Resident Representative introduced the third country programme for Lebanon (DP/CP/LEB/3), for the period 1992 to 1996 which had a net IPF plus carry-over of $19 million and estimated cost-sharing of $5 million. Those resources would be concentrated in the areas of: (a) reactivation of the public sector through support to economic management and public administration reform; (b) social reconstruction; and (c) economic revitalization through balanced development.

61. The representative of one country supported approval of the programme, noting that while the programme was ambitious the reactivation of UNDP activities in Lebanon was welcomed. It was questioned whether the programme approach was being followed and concern was raised as to whether the holding of a mid-term review in 1995 was too late, given that the programme period was for 1992 to 1996. In reply, the Resident Representative indicated that the programme approach was being introduced in a number of areas and that the mid-term review was scheduled for the beginning of 1995, as it was taking time to build up the programme and there had been an effort to integrate the mid-term review with the end of the national emergency rehabilitation programme.

62. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council approve the third country programme for Lebanon.

C. European States

1. Country programmes

Bulgaria

63. The Director of the Division for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States introduced the fifth country programme for Bulgaria (DP/CP/BUL/5) for the period 1993 to 1996, which had a net IPF of $2.9 million. He highlighted the four main areas of concentration: environmental protection; support to the private sector; management development; and restructuring agricultural production and food industry.

64. He indicated that with the opening of the new UNDP office in Sofia, the opportunities for cost-sharing on projects in these key areas should be greatly enhanced and, given the limited IPF resources, it was intended to use UNDP resources as seed money for the formulation of projects likely to attract additional resources. In terms of execution modalities, he stressed that national execution would be actively applied in the implementation of projects.

65. The representative of Bulgaria expressed appreciation for UNDP assistance to his country and highlighted its importance to his country's transitional programme.

66. Three other delegates spoke in favour of the country programme. The document was found to be concise, but ambitious. It was hoped that programming activities would be catalytic but at the same time realistic. The view was

expressed that the application of national execution should pose no problem for Bulgaria.

67. The Committee recommended that the Council approve the fifth country programme for Bulgaria.

## Malta

68. The Deputy Director of the Division for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States introduced the fifth country programme for Malta (DP/CP/MAT/5), explaining that Malta had achieved net contributor status in the fifth cycle and as such had a net IPF of $715,492 for the years 1993-1996; this would be the last country programme for Malta. One of the key elements was the Government's plans to share its UNDP experience and expertise gained through a number of technical cooperation among developing countries activities with other countries.

69. A question was raised concerning the level of cost-sharing activities. In reply, the representative of UNDP stressed the contribution the Government of Malta was making, both in terms of cash and in terms of support, to the national programmes, which UNDP resources were also supporting.

70. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council approve the fifth country programme for Malta.

## Romania

71. The Resident Representative introduced the fifth country programme for Romania (DP/CP/ROM/5), for the period 1993 to 1996, which had a net IPF of $2 million and three areas of focus: human resources development; privatization; and environmental protection. In view of the limited UNDP resources, he indicated that UNDP was working very closely with other donors in these fields. He also made reference to a project which lay outside the three main areas of concentration and which was financed mainly by a French trust fund. The aim of the project was to design a comprehensive export promotion policy supporting the efforts of the numerous economic agents currently engaged in export activities. Systematic synergy with other United Nations agencies had also been sought for the human development dimensions of the programme - notably the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Bank, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Population Fund. In the field of democratization and human rights protection, close cooperation had been established with the United Nations Centre for Human Rights, which had undertaken an important technical cooperation programme for Romania.

72. The representative of Romania expressed appreciation to UNDP staff for the efforts made in finalizing the programme document, stressing that in view of the serious economic problems of Romania, which had been aggravated by the embargo on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), the level of IPF resources was insufficient. Despite the difficult transition, Romania has been successful in making considerable progress in the area of privatization and small-scale enterprise development as well as in its democratization efforts.

73. Five other representatives spoke, supporting the programme and noting its limited resources, but expressing agreement on the priority areas selected. One delegation wondered whether the environmental protection and energy conservation should be a priority for UNDP, given the level of involvement of other donors in the field and stressed the need for close coordination. In response, the Resident Representative pointed to the involvement of UNDP in Global Environment Facility (GEF) projects covering the Black Sea and the Danube, key areas for Romania and for UNDP coordination efforts with national activities in this field as well as with those of external donors.

74. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council approve the fifth country programme for Romania.

## 2. Extensions of country programmes

### Cyprus

75. The Deputy Director of the Division for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States introduced the extension of the third country programme for Cyprus. In doing so, he drew attention to the intention of UNDP to pursue an equitable distribution of resources to island-wide activities, including bi-communal activities, during the extension of the programme.

76. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council approve the second extension for one year of the third country programme for Cyprus.

# CHAPTER V. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME MATTERS

77. Following its consideration of the items before it, the Standing Committee recommended that the Governing Council adopt the following draft decision:

## DRAFT DECISION

### Country, intercountry and global programmes

The Governing Council

1. Approves the following country programmes:

African States

| | |
|---|---|
| Fifth country programme for Ethiopia | DP/CP/ETH/5 |
| Fifth country programme for Ghana | DP/CP/GHA/5 |
| Fourth country programme for Mauritania | DP/CP/MAU/4 |
| Fourth country programme for Sao Tomé and Principe | DP/CP/STP/4 |

African States (continued)

| | |
|---|---|
| Fifth country programme for Swaziland | DP/CP/SWA/5 |
| Third country programme for Zimbabwe | DP/CP/ZIM/3 |

Arab States

| | |
|---|---|
| Sixth country programme for Algeria | DP/CP/ALG/6 |
| Third country programme for Djibouti | DP/CP/DJI/3 |
| Fifth country programme for Egypt | DP/CP/EGY/5 |
| Third country programme for Lebanon | DP/CP/LEB/3 |

European States

| | |
|---|---|
| Fifth country programme for Bulgaria | DP/CP/BUL/5 |
| Fifth country programme for Malta | DP/CP/MAT/5 |
| Fifth country programme for Romania | DP/CP/ROM/5 |

Asian States

| | |
|---|---|
| Fifth country programme for Papua New Guinea | DP/CP/PNG/5 |

Latin American and Caribbean States

| | |
|---|---|
| Third country programme for Cayman Islands | DP/CP/CAY/3 |
| Fifth country programme for Jamaica | DP/CP/JAM/5 |
| Fifth country programme for Panama | DP/CP/PAN/5 |
| Third country programme for Turks and Caicos Islands | DP/CP/TCI/3 |

2. Approves the fifth country programme for Rwanda with the provision that the Administrator shall present an interim report to the Council at its fortieth session on the implementation of the country programme as well as the impact which the evolution of the general context of the country may have on the implementation of the programme;

3. Also approves the extension of the third country programme for Cyprus (DP/CP/CYP/3/EXTENSION I);

4. Takes note of the Administrator's intention to continue to approve projects on a case-by-case basis for Somalia, pending normalization of the situation in the country; and requests the Administrator to report orally to the Council at its fortieth session on the results and progress of UNDP efforts in Somalia and to submit a written report on progress and results to the Council at its special session in February 1994;

5. Takes note of the tentative timetable for mid-term reviews 1993-1995 as contained in document DP/1993/6.

6. Decides (a) to discuss the general question of project approval on a case-by-case basis at its fortieth session and (b) to examine the timetable of the mid-term reviews at its fortieth session in the light of the views expressed by delegates at the special session.

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